

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



Eastern Massachusetts National Wildlife Refuge Complex 73 Weir Hill Road Sudbury, MA 01776 978-443-4661

Dear Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Concord Unit Visitors,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the intent to install a fee collection machine and automated gate at the entrance of Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located off Monsen Road. The machine will be in operation from sunrise to sunset throughout the year and replaces the existing cash-only fee collection station presently located near the Great Meadows NWR parking lot. The new machine will accept credit cards and all existing entrance passes and methods, including America the Beautiful passes, Refuge Annual passes, Duck Stamps, and more. Installation will occur entirely within the Great Meadows NWR right of way. Utility construction to prepare the site will begin Wednesday, December 1st, and conclude Friday, December 17th. During this time, the Monsen Road entrance will be inaccessible. The machine and gate system will be installed sometime in early spring 2022. Additional information will be shared when available.

The intent of this project is to reduce vehicle congestion and improve visitor safety. The machine and gate system are equipped with a car counter that will calculate when the lot is full, prompting a Lot Full sign to switch on. Refuge law enforcement will coordinate directly with the Concord police department to mitigate any traffic-related issues in the area.

Refuge personnel will provide additional support and outreach during the transition period when the machine and gate system is installed.